

## § 251.6

## 30 CFR Ch. II (7–1–09 Edition)

### § 251.6 Obligations and rights under a permit or a Notice.

While conducting G&G exploration or scientific research activities under MMS permit or Notice:

- (a) You must not:
  - (1) Interfere with or endanger operations under any lease, right-of-way, easement, right-of-use, Notice, or permit issued or maintained under the Act;
  - (2) Cause harm or damage to life (including fish and other aquatic life), property, or to the marine, coastal, or human environment;
  - (3) Cause harm or damage to any mineral resource (in areas leased or not leased);
  - (4) Cause pollution;
  - (5) Disturb archaeological resources;
  - (6) Create hazardous or unsafe conditions; or
  - (7) Unreasonably interfere with or cause harm to other uses of the area.
- (b) You must immediately report to the Regional Director if you:
  - (1) Detect hydrocarbon occurrences;
  - (2) Detect environmental hazards which imminently threaten life and property; or
  - (3) Adversely affect the environment, aquatic life, archaeological resources, or other uses of the area where you are conducting exploration or scientific research activities.
- (c) You must also consult and coordinate your G&G activities with other users of the area for navigation and safety purposes.
- (d) Any persons conducting shallow test drilling or deep stratigraphic test drilling activities under a permit must use the best available and safest technologies that the Regional Director determines to be economically feasible.
- (e) You may not claim any oil, gas, sulphur, or other minerals you discover while conducting operations under a permit or Notice.

### § 251.7 Test drilling activities under a permit.

- (a) *Shallow test drilling.* Before you begin shallow test drilling under a permit, the Regional Director may require you to:
  - (1) Gather and submit seismic, bathymetric, sidescan sonar, magnetometer, or other geophysical data and informa-

tion to determine shallow structural detail across and in the vicinity of the proposed test.

- (2) Submit information for coastal zone consistency certification according to paragraphs (b)(3) and (b)(4) of this section, and for protecting archaeological resources according to paragraph (b)(5) of this section.

- (3) Allow all interested parties the opportunity to participate in the shallow test according to paragraph (c) of this section, and meet bonding requirements according to paragraph (d) of this section.

(b) *Deep stratigraphic tests.* You must submit to the appropriate Regional Director, at the address in § 251.5(d), a drilling plan, an environmental report, an Application for Permit to Drill (Form MMS-123), and a Supplemental APD Information Sheet (Form MMS-123S) as follows:

- (1) *Drilling plan.* The drilling plan must include:
  - (i) The proposed type, sequence, and timetable of drilling activities;
  - (ii) A description of your drilling rig, indicating the important features with special attention to safety, pollution prevention, oil-spill containment and cleanup plans, and onshore disposal procedures;
  - (iii) The location of each deep stratigraphic test you will conduct, including the location of the surface and projected bottomhole of the borehole;
  - (iv) The types of geological and geophysical survey instruments you will use before and during drilling;
  - (v) Seismic, bathymetric, sidescan sonar, magnetometer, or other geophysical data and information sufficient to evaluate seafloor characteristics, shallow geologic hazards, and structural detail across and in the vicinity of the proposed test to the total depth of the proposed test well; and
  - (vi) Other relevant data and information that the Regional Director requires.

(2) *Environmental report.* The environmental report must include all of the following material:

- (i) A summary with data and information available at the time you submitted the related drilling plan. MMS